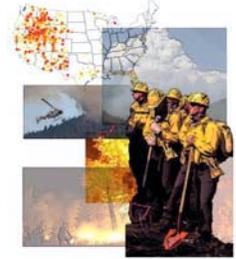


National Fire Plan

Modeling People's Responses To Landscape Treatments



Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Florida - Fire management treatments in forested areas adjacent to residential areas can reduce fuel loads and in turn hazardous fire conditions. At the same time, these treatments can affect the forest characteristics that attracted people to live in these areas in the first place (e.g., scenic beauty, seclusion, naturalness).

With funding by the National Fire Plan, scientists from the USDA Forest Service are working with partners at seven universities across the country to evaluate public perceptions of fire management treatments and aesthetic values. Data collection has begun in areas around the Boundary Water Canoe Area in Minnesota and in Florida. Potential study areas have been identified in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The results of this work will assist land managers in choosing treatment strategies and communication avenues that will reduce controversies and strengthen constituency support for fire management treatments.

For additional information on the National Fire Plan, visit www.fireplan.gov